

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing information, goods or services to employees, comprising  
the acts of:

identifying information, goods or services for assisting employees in performing their  
employment tasks;

identifying providers of the identified information, goods or services; and

developing a website that enables the employees to obtain the identified information,  
goods or services from the identified providers.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, comprising:

using the website to provide information, goods, or services to employees within a single  
business.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, comprising:

developing a configurable website system that enables a plurality of websites to be  
developed, each website enabling a business to provide information, goods, or  
services to assist employees to perform their jobs.

4. The method as recited in claim 3, wherein only the business's employees are  
provided information, goods, or services.

5. The method as recited in claim 3, comprising:  
providing a business with a template of information, goods, and services; and  
developing a website for the business based upon the business's choices of desired  
information, goods, or services selected from the template.

6. The method as recited in claim 5, comprising:  
including the providers of the information, goods, or services in the template; and  
developing the website for the business based upon the business's choices of desired  
providers of information, goods, or services.

7. The method as recited in claim 3, comprising:  
providing computer hardware, software, or services to assist a business in operating a  
website to provide employees with information, goods, or services.

8. The method as recited in claim 3, comprising:  
providing computer hardware, software, or services to assist a business in extending an  
Intranet system to a website accessible to employees of other businesses.

9. A system for providing information, goods, or services to employees, comprising:  
a website providing information to a business's employees and enabling the employees to  
use the website to order products or services.

Bad 10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the employee is an employee of the business operating the website. 101

Sub Q3 5 11. The system as recited in claim 9, comprising:  
an electronic information system; and  
a plurality of terminals that provide access to the website for a plurality of the business's employees.

10 12. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the system comprises:  
a computer network; and  
a computer program stored in the computer network.

Sub Q4 15 13. The system as recited in claim 12, wherein the computer program provides a business with the ability to select from a template of information, goods, and services that the website may provide the business's employees. 112

Bad 14. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the website is accessible via the Internet. 101

20 15. The system as recited in claim 12, wherein the system routes an employee's order for goods or services through the system for processing by the employee's employer. business

Blad 16. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the system is configured to identify the employee using the website. (b)

5 17. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the system tracks the employees use of the website. (b)

Sub as 18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the system configures the website for each employee based on the employee's previous use of the website. (b)

10 19. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the system is linked to a second website. (b)

Blad 20. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the computer program is a plurality of computer programs stored at a plurality of websites and linked together. (b)

15 Sub as 21. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein the links to the plurality of websites are closed links, such that when a link in a first website is activated it does not appear to the employee that the employee is linked to a second website. (b)

20 22. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the system is configured for employees in specific occupational groups. (b)

ad 23. A template for a configurable website, comprising:  
a tangible medium storing a computer software program, the software program being  
configurable to provide selected information, products or services to employees via  
a website.

5 24. The template as recited in claim 23, wherein the employees are the business's employees. 7-36

10 25. The template as recited in claim 24, wherein the computer software program is accessible via the Internet. B

15 26. The template as recited in claim 23, wherein information, products or services is provided by a second website party via a link to the second website. Sub a7 27

20 27. The template as recited in claim 23, wherein the website is configured by the business for an employee in a specific occupational field.

28. A method for an employee of a business to procure goods, or services, comprising:  
providing a website having a menu of goods or services available for purchase by an  
employee;  
accessing the website having a menu of goods or services available for purchase by an  
employee;

placing an order for desired goods or services by selecting the desired goods or services  
from the menu;  
obtaining approval from the business for purchase of the order;;  
sending an electronic representation of the approved order to a source via the electronic  
information network; and  
providing the employee with the goods or services.

29. The method as recited in claim 28, wherein obtaining approval from the business  
for the purchase comprises:

automatically sending an electronic representation of the order via the website to an  
approval authority with the employee's employer.

30. The method as recited in claim 28, wherein obtaining approval from the business  
for the purchase comprises:

providing an automated approval process based on a set of instructions stored at the  
website.

31. A system for providing information, goods, or services to employees, comprising:  
a computer; and  
a website hosted by the computer, wherein the website enables an employee to obtain  
information, goods, or services to assist the employee perform employment  
functions.

32. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein the website is accessible over the Internet.

33. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein a portion of the website is configured topically by employee job function.

34. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein the website is adaptable for each employee that accesses the website.

35. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein the website is provided to employees by a first business.

36. The system as recited in claim 35, wherein the website has a link to a second website operated by a second business.

37. The system as recited in 36, wherein the link to the second website is a closed-link.

38. The system as recited in claim 36, wherein the first business receives compensation from the second business for transactions completed by an employee with the second website.

39. The system as recited in claim 36, wherein the system documents all transactions completed by an employee.

40. The system as recited in claim 35, wherein the website is provided to employees by a first business exclusively for use by employees of the first business.

41. The system as recited in claim 31, where the system is configurable so that a business may select the information, goods, or services to be displayed on the website.

42. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein the information, goods, or services includes a computer software application stored on the computer.

43. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein the information, goods, or services includes a computer software application accessed from a second website.